



COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

Georgia's First Consolidated Government

Post Office Box 1340

Columbus, Georgia 31902-1340

Telephone (706) 653-4712

FAX (706) 653-4970

TDD (706) 653-4494

Teresa Tomlinson, Mayor

MEDIA RELEASE

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COLUMBUS, GEORGIA CRIME RATE LOWEST IN OVER 30 YEARS

Part-One Crime Statistics for 2017 Show 9% Drop in Crime from Previous Year

In 2017, Columbus reported 9,604 Part-One crimes down 9%, or 968 crimes, from 2016. The overall crime rate is at its lowest level in 33 years (1984), and shows a 39% decrease in Part-One crimes since its height in 2009, when the city reported 15,812 Part-One crimes.

Though Columbus saw an increase in the number of murders in 2017 from 2016, going from 24 murders to 35 murders, the 2017 violent crime rate, which also includes rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults fell by 13%. Rapes are up 13%, Robberies are down by 20% and Aggravated Assaults are up by 2%.

Likewise, Columbus saw an 8% decrease in its property crime rate from 2016, with a 12% decrease in Burglary, an 8% decrease in Larceny and an 8% decrease in Motor Vehicle Theft.

For 2017, property crimes (8,633) are down 41% from their height in 2009 (14,669). Violent crimes in 2017 (971) are down 30% from their height in 2007 (1,384).

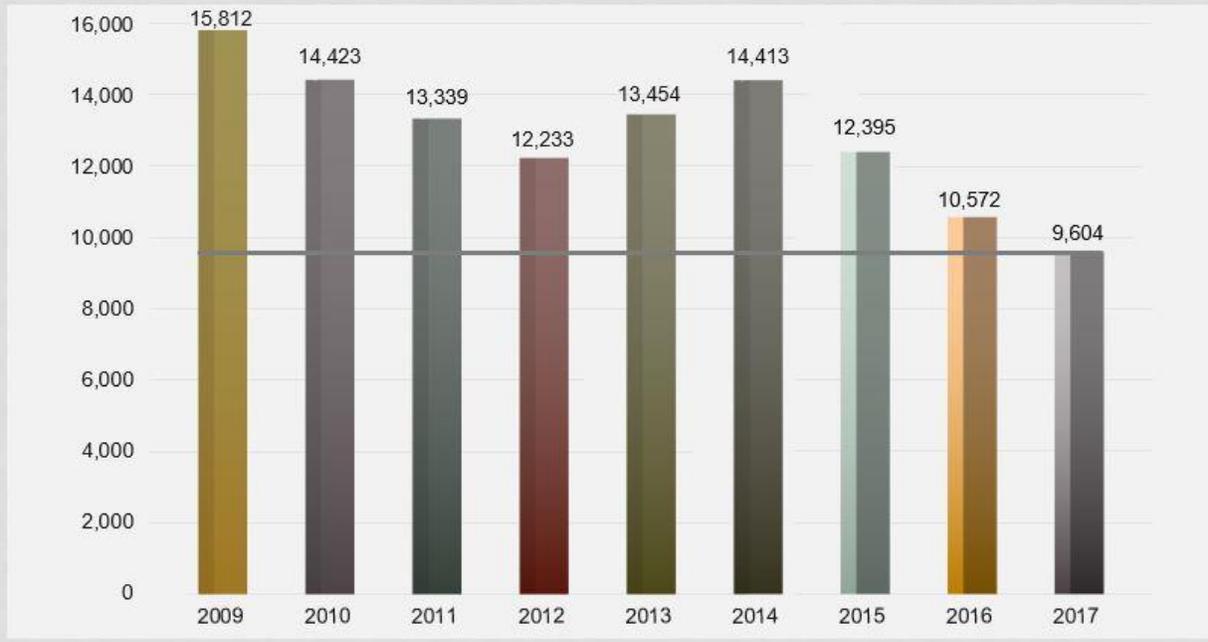
"A reduction in crime rate does not mean there is no crime in Columbus, or that there is not serious crime in Columbus," said Mayor Teresa Tomlinson. "What it does mean is that we are making significant strides to reduce crime overall and that those reductions are being sustained over the long-term. We are particularly encouraged to see decreases in property crimes and in violent crimes. That being said, we still have a great deal of work ahead of us."

"Crime statistics fluctuate from year to year, but we are seeing sustained decreases over time," said Police Chief Rick Boren. "It is a daily battle for our officers on the street, our investigators, our criminal intelligence unit, and our neighborhood associations that continue to be a critical part of the steady progress we have made."

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The seven tracked crime categories of Part-One Crimes are recorded in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) and are published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. UCR is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of over 18,000 jurisdictions, which voluntarily reports data on crimes brought to its attention.

Reduced Part-1 Crimes By 39%, To Lowest Level Since 1984



37 YEARS OF PART-1 CRIME DATA		
CRIME CATEGORY	2017	COMPARATIVE YEAR(S)
TOTAL PART-1 CRIMES	9,604	Lowest since 1984 w/ 9,548 (33 yr low)
Murder	35	Highest since 1980, similar years include 2008 w/ 30, 1993 w/ 32, 1986 w/ 29
Rape	60	Similar or higher years include 2015 w/ 68, 2008 w/ 70, 1992 w/ 60, 1980-1991 ranged from 59-95
Robbery	443	Lowest year since 2012 w/ 423, 2011 w/ 418, 2004 w/ 405 (5 yr low)
Aggravated Assault	433	Second lowest year since 2002 w/ 432, 2016 w/ 425 is lowest year since 2002 (Second lowest in 15 yrs; Third lowest in 28 yrs)
Burglary	1,976	Lowest since 2002 w/ 1941 (15 yr low)
Larceny	5,852	Lowest since 1983 w/ 3,793 (34 yr low)
Auto Theft	805	Lowest since 1992 w/ 685 (25 yr low)

<i>Specific Offenses</i>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Murder	30	13	15	17	17	22	22	21	24	35
Rape	70	44	37	34	31	36	47	68	53	60
Robbery	589	575	477	418	423	481	511	545	551	443
Aggravated Assault	538	511	476	464	528	485	520	512	425	433
Burglary	3,270	3,798	3,452	3,339	2,709	3,355	3,711	2,560	2,253	1,976
Larceny	9,642	9,351	8,959	8,018	7,681	7,965	8,430	7,632	6,395	5,852
Auto Theft	1,612	1,520	1,007	1,049	844	1,110	1,172	1,057	871	805
Total Part 1	15,751	15,812	14,423	13,339	12,233	13,454	14,413	12,395	10,572	9,604

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Brennan Reh – (706) 225-3167
 Mayor Teresa Tomlinson – (706) 905-9570
 Chief Rick Boren – (706) 653-3100